

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY EB/OF/FFD:CRC AVANAUGH

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TO AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY KABUL

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

UNCLAS STATE 173416

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, ETRD

SUBJECT: PL 480 VEGETABLE OIL PROGRAM FOR AFGHANISTAN

1. AT GOVERNMENT OF AFGHANISTAN REQUEST USG IS PLANNING TO PROVIDE 4,000 METRIC TONS OF SOYBEAN/COTTONSEED OIL UNDER TITLE I OF PL 480 IN THE TRANSITIONAL QUARTER, „E., JULY-SEPTEMBER, 1976. A USUAL MARKETING REQUIREMENT OF 7,300 METRIC TONS IS INCLUDED BASED ON AVERAGE OF MOST RECENT FIVE-YEAR AFGHANISTAN IMPORT DATA AVAILABLE AS GIVEN BELOW. IRAN AND SINGAPORE HAVE BEEN CONSISTENT SUPPLIERS OF THIS MARKET. THUS, YOU SHOULD CONSULT HOST GOVERNMENTS ON THIS PROPOSED PROGRAM. ANY COMMENTS WOULD BE APPRECIATED NO LATER THAN JULY 26 AND EARLIER, IF AT ALL POSSIBLE.

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2. TERMS INCLUDE AN INITIAL PAYMENT OF 5 PERCENT WITH

BALANCE REPAYABLE IN 31 ANNUAL INSTALLMENTS FOLLOWING 10-YEAR GRACE PERIOD. A 10 PERCENT CUP IS ALSO INCLUDED. INTEREST RATE DURING GRACE PERIOD IS TWO PERCENT, RISING TO THREE PERCENT THEREAFTER. EXPORTS OF VEGETABLE OIL AND OILSEEDS WILL BE PROHIBITED DURING THE PERIOD THE PL 480 OIL IS BEING IMPORTED AND UTILIZED.

3. UMR BASED ON FOLLOWING IMPORT DATA (IN 1,000 METRIC

TONS) OF EDIBLE VEGETABLE OILS:

	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974
IRAN	2.6	5.7	5.1	2.7	.6
NETHERLANDS	.3	1.3	2.1	.2	2.6
SINGAPORE	1.0	1.9	3.0	1.1	2.3
OTHER	1.1	.6	.9	.4	1.0
	5.0	9.5	11.1	4.4	6.5

4. YOU MAY DRAW UPON FOLLOWING AS NECESSARY: AFGHANISTAN IS ONE OF THE POOREST NATIONS IN WORLD. IT IS ON THE UN'S LIST OF MOST SERIOUSLY AFFECTED COUNTRIES. EDIBLE VEGETABLE OIL IS A BASIC PART OF AFGHAN DIET. AFGHAN GOVERNMENT EFFORTS TO BECOME SELF-SUFFICIENT IN VEGOIL ARE AS YET UNSUCCESSFUL; THUS IT MUST STILL IMPORT ABOUT HALF OF ITS ANNUAL REQUIREMENTS. PROVISION OF SOME OF THIS REQUIREMENT ON A CONCESSIONAL BASIS WILL RELEASE FOREIGN EXCHANGE FOR MAXIMUM DEVELOPMENT PURPOSES. KISSINGER

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
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